



Fact Sheet

Project Title: East Lake Sammamish Master Plan Trail, King County and Cities of Issaquah, Sammamish and Redmond, Washington

Location and Description of Proposed Alternatives: The King County Facilities Management Division proposes to develop an alternative transportation corridor and recreation trail along approximately 11 miles of former railroad corridor on the east side of Lake Sammamish. The trail would extend from Gilman Boulevard in the City of Issaquah north to the Bear Creek Trail in the City of Redmond. Portions of the railroad corridor have already been developed into an Interim Use Trail, which has been evaluated in previous environmental documents. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) evaluates alternatives for developing the existing Interim Use Trail into a permanent, Master Plan Trail, to help make a decision on the ultimate Master Plan. Volume I, Chapter 2 of the Draft EIS discusses the process that determined the range of alternatives considered, and then describes each alternative. Alternatives evaluated in the EIS include:

- **Corridor Alternative:** A Master Plan Trail would be located within the former railroad right of way. The majority of the trail would encompass the existing Interim Use Trail, with the trail leaving the Interim Use Trail only in those places where trail safety would be improved by doing so. The trail would accommodate pedestrian, wheeled, and equestrian use on paved and adjacent or separated soft surfaces. This alternative includes vehicular parking and restrooms. For additional information, please refer to Volume I, Section 2.5.1 of the Draft EIS.
- **East Alternatives (A and B):** The East Alternatives would use the former railroad right of way in certain segments and transition to the roadway shoulder of East Lake Sammamish Parkway in several areas. The trail would transition to the roadway shoulder to avoid several driveway/public roadway intersections, approximately 1.7 miles of divided properties between SE 33rd and roughly the 1400 block of East Lake Sammamish Parkway SE, and sensitive areas. The transition to the roadway would be at a gradient that is acceptable under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). High-speed bicycle use would remain in the bike lanes on the roadway. These alternatives include vehicular parking and restrooms.
 - For the **East A Alternative**, where the alignment for the multi-use (i.e., paved) trail leaves the Interim Use Trail, equestrian and pedestrian use would continue on the existing Interim Use Trail. For additional information on the East A Alternative, please refer to Volume I, Sections 2.5.2 and 2.5.2.1 of the Draft EIS.
 - For the **East B Alternative**, these portions of the Interim Use Trail would be closed to all users. In these areas, pedestrians and equestrians would be routed away from the Interim Use Trail along with non-motorized vehicles. For additional information on the East B Alternative, please refer to Volume I, Sections 2.5.2 and 2.5.2.2 of the Draft EIS.
- **Continuation of the Interim Use Trail Alternative:** The existing 10.6-mile Interim Use Trail would be continued beyond the currently authorized 2015 expiration date. The Interim Use Trail is a gravel trail, 8 to 12 feet wide. Equestrian use is not permitted on the existing Interim Use Trail but would be considered as part of this alternative. The existing Interim Use Trail would be extended north over Bear Creek. This alternative includes the addition of vehicular parking and restrooms. For additional information, please refer to Volume I, Section 2.5.3 of the Draft EIS.

- **No Action Alternative:** King County would continue to operate the existing Interim Use Trail through 2015, at which time the permitted operation of the trail would expire in the absence of additional environmental review. For additional information, please refer to Volume I, Section 2.5.4 of the Draft EIS.

King County has determined that the Corridor Alternative best meets the Purpose and Need put forth in the Draft EIS, and has named the Corridor Alternative as its Preferred Alternative. King County will consider the environmental review as well as project cost and comments on the Draft EIS in defining a selected alternative for the project. Please refer to Volume I, Section 2.5.5 of the Draft EIS.

Proposed Implementation Date: Construction is anticipated to begin in 2009 and occur over several years.

Proponent: Federal Highway Administration and King County Division of Facilities Management

SEPA Responsible Official:

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Issue Date of Draft EIS: **October 20, 2006**

Due Date for Comments: **December 19, 2006**

Written comments may be sent to Gina Auld, Project Manager, King County Facilities Management Division, King Street Center, 201 South Jackson Street, #700, Seattle, WA 98104 or sent via e-mail to fmd.sepacomments@metrokc.gov.

To Obtain a Copy of the Draft EIS: Printed copies of the DEIS can be obtained at Olympic Reprographics in Seattle; contact Robert Stiteler at 206-373-7043. CD-ROMs of the DEIS can be purchased for \$1.50 from King County Department of Executive Services. Contact Cat Hicks at 206-296-1822.

The DEIS is available for review at the following locations:

Seattle Public Library – 1000 4th Ave, Seattle, WA

Bellevue Public Library – 1111-110th Avenue, Bellevue, WA

Redmond Public Library – 15990 NE 85th Street, Redmond, WA

Sammamish Public Library – 825-228th Avenue NE, Sammamish, WA

Issaquah Public Library – 10 West Sunset Way, Issaquah, WA

King County Administration Building, Room 320, 500 Fourth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104.

In addition, you may download project documents and get general project information at the project website: www.metrokc.gov/eastlakesammamishtrail

Anticipated Date of Final Lead Agency Action: Fall 2007.